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It is essential for Sailors to find ways to relax during their free time, while out at sea for an extended periods. Being away from family and friends are rough, so Sailors need a place that takes their minds off these thoughts.

The Command Religious Ministries Department (CRMD) oversees the daily operation of the ship's library. Although small, the library offers Sailors the opportunity to choose from a variety of different reading topics.

The library has most of the classic literature, history, as well as popular novels and all the latest magazines.

"The library has over 4,000 books, onboard," said Religious Programs Specialist 3rd Class Yegor Kasatkin. "We try to have a wide variety so Sailors can get a book to relax."

In addition to reading material the library has televisions for both watching movies and playing video games. These areas are very popular because

Photos By MC3 Nathan Lockwood

many Sailors onboard do not have access to televisions so they are unable to watch many of the movies they liked to see back home.

The two most popular areas of the library are the Sailor phones and the internet computers. Both of these serve as a way for Sailors to communicate with loved ones back home. Either by sending a quick email or using a calling card to call home, these are two things that CRMD takes great pride in offering Sailors the opportunity to use.

"The phones and internet are, by far, the most popular things in the library," said Kasatkin. "Sailors make over 100 phone calls a day and over 500 Sailors use our computers every day."

So if a Sailor is looking for a place to relax and sit back and read a good book, watch a movie, or simply call home, stop by the ship's library. They will be more than happy to help each Sailor's needs.



Reading is fundamental

